



PATENT  
Docket No.: AFAN-003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3737

Examiner: Barry Pass

Serial No.: 09/817,361

Filed: March 20, 2001

In re Application of: Natalia I. Afanassieva

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SPECTROSCOPIC ANALYSIS  
OF HUMAN OR ANIMAL TISSUE OR BODY FLUIDS

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Director of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 12, 2002 Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Paul J. McCoy

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Director of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Each item of information listed in the attached FORM PTO-1449, for which a copy of each is attached, may be material to the examination of the above-identified application and is, therefore, submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The Examiner is requested to make these items of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of these items constitutes prior art.

11/18/2002 AAD0F01 00000039 09817361

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## I

This statement is filed pursuant to:

- ( ) 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

This information disclosure statement is filed either (1) within three months of the filing date of the national applications; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires no fee and no certification.

- (X) 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

This information disclosure statement is filed after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), but before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires either the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) or a certification according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

- ( ) 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

This information disclosure statement is filed after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), \$180.00, for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), and a statement according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

- ( ) (1) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

- ( ) (2) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), \$180.00, for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

If this statement crosses in the mail with an office action, or is otherwise not in the indicated category of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, it is respectfully requested that this statement be treated in the next appropriate category and made of record. To the extent required, please treat this paper as a conditional petition for acceptance of the information disclosure statement.

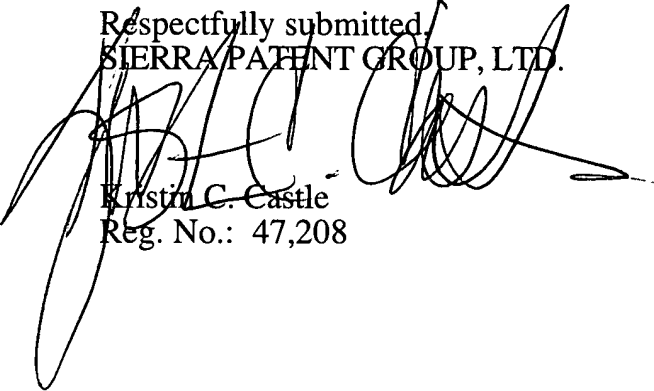
II

- ( ) No fee is due.
- (X) The fee specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), or 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is enclosed, \$180.00.

In the event any fee is required for filing the above-noted document, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing attached document timely, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0612. A duplicate of this page is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
SIERRA PATENT GROUP, LTD.

Dated: November 12, 2002

  
Kristin C. Castle  
Reg. No.: 47,208

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Paul J. McCoy

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Director of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO 37 References.
3. Check in the amount of \$180.00.

In the event any additional fee is required for filing the above-noted document, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of attached document timely, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No.: 50-0612. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed.

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